



CONGRESSMAN HENRY A. WAXMAN NEWS

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WAXMAN DENOUNCES CARTER GAS TAX

Last week Congressman Henry A. Waxman (D-Los Angeles) denounced President Carter's proposed tax of ten cents per gallon on gasoline.

The Los Angeles lawmaker said,

"The President's proposed tax is an illegal usurpation of the taxation powers of Congress and a terrible burden on Southern Californians dependent on automobiles. As a conservation measure, it is of negligible value."

Waxman, along with other opponents of the gasoline tax, was delighted with last week's ruling by U.S. District Judge Aubrey Robinson in their favor. Robinson ruled that the gas tax was "an attempt to exercise authority that was deliberately withheld from the President by Congress."

The anti-tax congressmen insist that the President cannot unilaterally impose such a tax but that it must, rather, be enacted by Congress.

Waxman said he was certain there would be additional battles in the federal courts before the gasoline tax issue is resolved.

"I intend to fight this matter both in the courts and in Congress. With current gas prices as high as they are, gasoline consumers simply cannot stand to pay an additional ten cents per gallon. I am opposed to so-called conservation measures which will eventually lead to European-style gas prices of \$2.50 per gallon or more. This gas tax plan will definitely not survive Congressional action."

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